



# CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **City of Falls Church Files Appeal to Defend Water Utility**

FALLS CHURCH, VA. – The City of Falls Church filed an appeal May 30, 2007 in the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals to preserve its ability to serve customers in its traditional water service area. The appeal follows the May 15, 2007 ruling from the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia that denied injunctive relief to prohibit the Fairfax County Water Authority from pursuing customers in the City's traditional water service area.

The appeal addresses the Fairfax County Water Authority's recent policy of soliciting large developers in the City's traditional service area. For decades, the City of Falls Church has been a good neighbor and sound business partner to Fairfax. The City has undertaken significant capital improvement projects to support its water system over the years, to meet the projected growth of many Fairfax County areas served by the City's water utility.

"We are taking action to defend our system and preserve our water service area," said Mayor Robin S. Gardner. "Fairfax Water is unfairly trying to put us out of business by cherry picking large developers in our service area. That means Fairfax Water will lay new pipe beside our existing pipes to create a duplicative system – and expect their residents to pay for it. That is a poor use of the public's money."

"We have a 75-year track record of providing clean, safe, and reliable water to our customers," Mayor Gardner continued. "We built the water system and we should be able to continue to serve our customers as we have for the past 75 years."

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*The City of Falls Church water service area includes 33 square miles of service lines reaching from the City of Falls Church to sections of Fairfax, McLean, Tysons Corner, and Vienna. The water system is supplied by the Washington Aqueduct, which draws water from the Potomac River. The Washington Aqueduct also supplies water to Arlington County and the District of Columbia.*

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